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17 SEP 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: John N. McMahon
Acting Deputy to the DCI for the
Intelligence Community

SUBJECT: Attachment to DCID 1/2

1. Your personal copy of the new Attachment to DCID 1/2 is attached. In accordance with your instructions in the Foreward, we are providing wide distribution of the document to the Intelligence Community.

2. I have forwarded individual copies of the document to key persons in the Community, as shown on the enclosed list. You may wish to add others (such as the President, Vice President, and certain members of Congress) which the IC Staff will be happy to accommodate.

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John N. McMahon

Attachments:
1. Attachment to DCID 1/2
dated 1 Aug 77
2. Distribution List

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The Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Charles W. Duncan, Jr.
Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Gerald P. Dinneen
Assistant Secretary of Defense,
(Communications, Command, Control and
Intelligence)

Admiral Daniel J. Murphy, USN (Ret.)
Director of Policy Review
Office of the Secretary of Defense

Lieutenant General Eugene F. Tighe, Jr., USAF
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The Honorable David E. McGiffert
Assistant Secretary of Defense
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Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

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Special Assistant to the Secretary for
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Department of the Treasury

Major General Edward B. Giller, USAF (Ret.)
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Energy Research and Development Administration

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Dr. Charles W. Cook
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The Honorable Zbigniew Brzezinski
Assistant to the President for
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The White House

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Central Intelligence

The Honorable Cyrus R. Vance
The Secretary of State

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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Current U.S. Foreign Intelligence Requirements Categories and Priorities

(ATTACHMENT TO DCID 1/2)

Prepared by the Intelligence Community Staff
for the Director of Central Intelligence
with the Advice of the
National Foreign Intelligence Board

Secret

NFIB-5.1/64
1 August 1977

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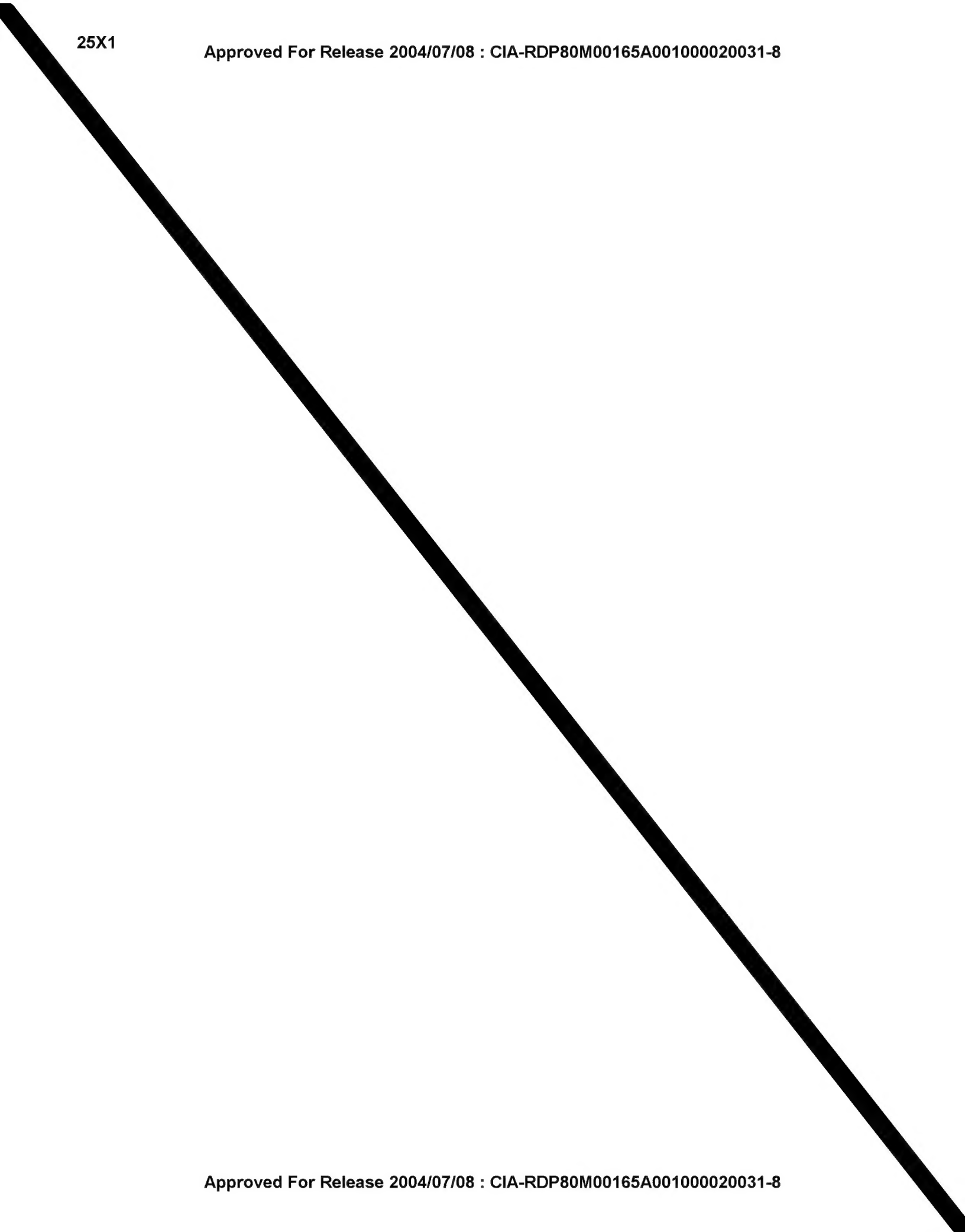

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FOREWORD

This Attachment to DCID 1/2, a fundamental component of the Intelligence Community Planning System, establishes a priorities classification system. The document is issued in compliance with the provisions of Executive Order No. 11905 and National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 1 regarding intelligence priorities.

The priorities indicated are intended to provide basic guidance to all intelligence activities, including those concerned with collection, analysis, and production. The document depicts categories of requirements under which activities within the Community can group requirements according to their needs. It is incumbent upon all such activities to structure their specialized requirements in accordance with the basic pattern of this document.

The requirements categories and their associated priorities are under continuing review. They can and will be revised upon validation—by the National Foreign Intelligence Board—of a change nomination from any member of the Intelligence Community. Apart from those unique requirements developed in times of increased tension or crisis, all specific substantive national intelligence requirements lend themselves to prioritization according to the classification system contained in this document.

The fact that this document impacts on all activities within the Intelligence Community engaged in collection, analysis, and production requires that it be given the widest dissemination.

Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence

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ATTACHMENT TO:
DCID No. 1/2

CURRENT U.S. FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS CATEGORIES AND PRIORITIES

As of 29 August 1977

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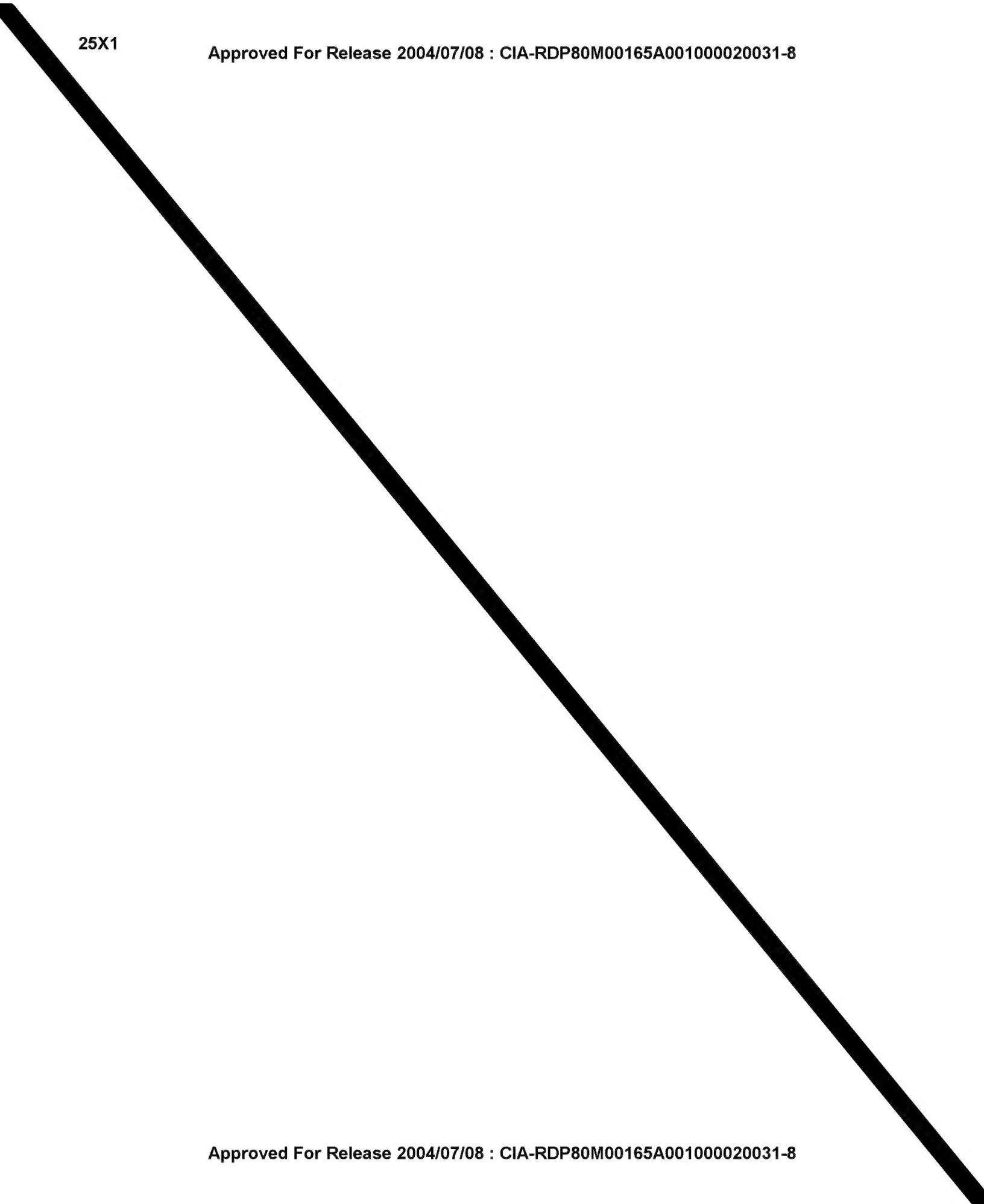

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CURRENT U.S. FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS CATEGORIES AND PRIORITIES

(ATTACHMENT TO DCID 1/2)

AS OF 29 AUGUST 1977

I. INTRODUCTION

Authority and Purpose

The requirements categories and priorities set forth in this Attachment are promulgated by the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) in accordance with DCID 1/2, effective 17 February 1977. This document provides basic substantive priorities guidance for conducting U.S. foreign intelligence activities.

Background

U.S. intelligence interests are global in nature and cover a wide spectrum of political, economic, military, and scientific and technical subjects. Prioritizing substantive intelligence requirements in terms of some measure of relative importance provides guidance to those responsible for intelligence operations.

The DCID 1/2 Attachment is the product of an annual review by the Intelligence Community which provides an opportunity to examine the priorities process and structure, and to make such changes as may be required.

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The current document differs from previous editions in several important respects. These changes have resulted from the development of a more coherent and comprehensive planning system of which the "Current U.S. Foreign Intelligence Requirements Categories and Priorities" is a part.

- The document reflects current priorities as opposed to previous editions where priorities related to a future time period.
- The priorities are expressed within a single matrix of two variables, one geographic and the other topical. (In previous editions, priorities were assigned according to multiple classifications depending upon intelligence interest in each foreign nation.)
- Although the current document is formally reviewed annually, the priorities are under continual review and can be revised as necessary. Explicit procedures for revision and dissemination of priority changes have been designed for use by all elements of the Intelligence Community.

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- In the assignment of priorities to requirements categories, the review process is more comprehensive in terms of participation by the National Intelligence Officers and various DCI Committees, in addition to review by Community organizations.
- The requirements categories have been extensively revised to make them mutually exclusive, so as to reduce ambiguity.
- The entire system is automated to allow for rapid change of priorities as well as to facilitate analysis of the priorities and their interrelationships. (Printouts or magnetic tape can be made available to Community members.)

How to Change Priorities

Any request to alter an existing priority will receive prompt attention. Requests for changes should be forwarded to the Office of Policy and Planning, Intelligence Community Staff, Washington, D.C. 20505, using the format and instructions in Annex C. Every initiative for change should be documented by the requestor. References to topics or nations should be explicit, using the number and decimal identifier where applicable.

The Intelligence Community Staff will be responsible for coordinating change requests with other concerned Community elements and for forwarding requests to the National Foreign Intelligence Board (NFIB) which, in turn, will recommend approval or disapproval to the DCI.

Dissemination of Priority Changes

The Intelligence Community Staff will notify holders of this document of any priority changes. Such changes, when received, should be noted in the holder's copy of the document pending issuance of a revised document following the formal review each year. Changes will be announced by memorandum as shown in Annex D.

Annual Review of Attachment to DCID 1/2

The Intelligence Community Staff will annually convene a group of Community representatives to review the Attachment to DCID 1/2 and to forward recommended changes to the NFIB. The Community group will review the priorities to ensure that approved interim changes have been incorporated and that all assigned priorities accurately reflect current intelligence interest.

The annual review will include an examination of priority definitions for clarity and current relevance. It will also include the structure of requirements categories as presented in the matrix, to ensure that countries are listed accurately—showing changes in names and political entities which may have taken place—and to ensure that all topics accurately characterize current intelligence needs and concerns.

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